



**PATENT**  
Attorney Docket No.: 12013/59001  
Group 1762

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor(s): Robert E. RICHARD

Serial No.: 09/879,216

Filing Date: June 13, 2001

For: **USING SUPERCRITICAL FLUIDS TO  
INFUSE THERAPEUTIC ON A  
MEDICAL DEVICE**

Group Art Unit: 1762

Examiner: J. Kolb Michener

**M.S. RCE**

Commissioner for Patents

P. O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

SIR:

This preliminary amendment for the RCE is filed in response to the January 16, 2004, Office Action, which set a shortened statutory response period extending to and including April 16, 2004.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any applicable fee and to credit any overpayment to deposit account no. 11-0600.

Prior to further examination on the merits, the undersigned requests that the application be amended to read as follows.